

Approved on October 19, 2010

Minutes
Mid-County Citizen's Advisory Board Meeting
September 21, 2010
Mid-County Regional Center - 2424 Reddie Drive, Wheaton, MD 20902

Members Present Theresa Bell, Robin Brannan, Eileen Cahill, L. Blaine Charak, Ritija Gupta, Gregory Intoccia, Stefan Lawson, Richard Newman, Gam Wijetunge, Ariel Winter

Members Absent Randy McDonald, Steve Morrison, Mary Scholl

Staff Present Natalie Cantor, Director, Mid-County Regional Center; Sue Koronowski, Program Manager, Mid-County Regional Center, Rob Klein, Wheaton Redevelopment.

Guests Greg Eisenstadt, Privacy World; Tim Cooke and Carla Julian, Inter County Connector (ICC); Mark Doore, Committee for Montgomery; Max [Bronstein](#), interested citizen; Cathy Mahmud, Department of Housing and Community Affairs; Chuck Crisostomo, Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, Taylor Kate Brown, Wheaton Patch.

Call to Order L. Blaine Charak, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Community Concerns Greg Eisenstadt spoke about concerns related to Privacy World.

Speakers

- Commander Damskey, new Commander of the 4th district, introduced himself and updated group on recent crime activity in the Wheaton area, commended officers. He stressed that the partnership between residents and police is essential in preventing and solving criminal activity. He will keep CAB up to date on crime trends.
- Chuck Crisostomo, Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Emergency distributed information on how to prepare for emergencies and disasters. He encouraged everyone to sign up for Alert Montgomery.
- Rob Klein, Wheaton Redevelopment, announced that BF Saul, local developer was selected for Wheaton's re-development. They will present to CAB soon.
- Taylor Kate Brown, Editor of Wheaton Patch, a new, on-line only, local news site for news and local announcements introduced herself and summarized the new venture. (www.wheaton-md.patch.com)
- Tim Cooke and Carla Julian from ICC provided update on progress of Parts A&B.
- Cathy Mahmud, Department of Housing and Community Affairs reported on the work of the Neighborhood Assistance Program. The Mid-County focus area has benefited from improvements to lighting and surfacing four paths in the neighborhood as well as installing privacy fencing, a hydraulic lift and lockers near a public pool. They are also working with "Rebuilding Together," providing low income repairs for qualified homeowners by volunteers.

Communications Letter of support to B'nai Shalom in Olney and Ambulance Implementation Fee to Isiah Leggett.

Old Business

Blaine attended the PEPCO hearing and was the last person to testify at 12:15 a.m. Attendees included State and Local officials, PEPCO, the Public Service Commission and all segments of the community. Participants felt PEPCO listened and has issued a plan to deal with the issues; it is now up to all parties to make sure they follow through and the situation improves. **MCCAB suggested that the Public Service Commission issue a report on the matter.**

Director's Report In addition to her written report, Natalie Cantor reported that mobile speed cameras are being implemented in the area.

Motions

- Approved July 20 minutes as corrected. Unanimous.
- Board discussed a reconfiguration of committees; it was moved and seconded to consolidate the land use and zoning and transportation committees. Passed: 10 in favor, 1 opposed

Committees:

Quality of Life: Gam reported that the committee met August 17 to discuss the relocation of the Fire Station at Randolph and Georgia. He explained the background and complexity of the project and the numerous stakeholders involved. The Committee will follow the project as it progresses. Committee will also follow the port-a-potty in the parks issue.

- Committee chairs will provide Sue Koronowski with a list of members and meeting dates.

Liaison Reports:

Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee: Natalie Cantor reported that the Roadside Committee report on panhandling in medians has been distributed and members are encouraged to read it as MCCAB will be asked to testify on the issue.

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee (Eileen Cahill): Current project in Olney are the Olney Town Center/Fair Hill, restaurants and shops at the corner of 97 & 108 and the complete re-build of Safeway.

New Business:

Ariel Winter brought up the issue of Kemp Mill Urban Park. The process to upgrade the park began last fall with active community input and stalled over the winter with Planning Board. Multiple plans were developed with no consensus until recently and the neighborhood is concerned about the lack of information/communication from Park and Planning. MCCAB has supported project and will locate information for Quality of Life Committee. Within the next month steps are in place to clean the pond and the area surrounding it.

Announcements:

MCCAB Orientation at 6:00 October 19, prior to next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned 8:30 P.M.

*This information is available in an alternative format by calling 240-777-8103.